the latest October twenty-eight. I think it survives the winter in the adult State as I feel confident I have seen on warm days in the middle of winter. Scudder's observations concerning the rounded tegmina of specimens from Texas applies equally well to the Arkansas form. There is also a marked variation in the length of the tegmina which are decidedly shorter or somewhat longer than the pronotum.

Nine males, twenty-two females.

Phoetaliotes nebrascensis Bruner. — This species has not actually been captured within the borders of the State but I have two males and one female which were taken a few miles within the Indian Territory and as the species occurs in Kansas and Texas and as far East as Indiana and Illinois, I have no hesitation in including it. The specimens referred to are much larger than those from Cordova, Illinois, and West Point, Nebraska, in my collection. The female measures 31 mm. the males 22 mm. and they are proportionately robust.

(*End.*)

CRYPTORHYNCHUS LAPATHI (L.) IN MASSACHUSETTS.

BY A. H. KIRKLAND, MALDEN, MASS.

A striking example of serious insect damage resulting from favorable local conditions is found in the occurrence of *Cryptorhynchus lapathi* (L.) in certain parts of Eastern Massachusetts. In Europe this beetle has gained much notoriety as a borer in alders and willows, but in Massachusetts its attack is largely directed against the balm of Gilead poplar. This leads us to a mention of a very interesting — from an entomological standpoint — state of affairs now existing in Winthrop, Revere and some other shore towns. The land being somewhat marshy and the balm of Gilead the indigenous tree that thrives best there, the streets and yards in the past have been largely planted with this tree. By far the majority of all shade trees on this low land are of this species of poplar. The weevil gained a foothold here some time ago and having an apparent preference for this tree finds here nearly perfect conditions for multiplication and gives evidence of its intention to replenish at least this particular section of the earth. The branches or young stems, as the case may be, weakened by the boring of the larvae are easily broken down by ice storms or high gales. At the present time there is hardly a sound balm of Gilead in the localities mentioned and it would seem probable that this weevil in the future may become a considerable pest in places where this tree is largely grown. The weevil breeds in nearly all species of poplars and in willows. Mr.

John G. Jack, in Garden and Forest, vol. X., page 394, has given a most interesting account of damage by this insect to the willows in the Arnold Arboretum. The damage there by the beetle is not exceptional, for the writer has noticed similar injuries in many of the larger nurseries in Eastern Massachusetts. In fact, some of our nurserymen are contemplating abandoning entirely the culture of poplars and willows because of the damage caused by this insect. The matter of remedies being still under consideration the writer has recommended so far, in the case of infested shade trees, only the destruction of the trees in June and a replanting with the silver maple (*Acer dasycarpum*) or its variety, *Wieirii*, either of which makes a good growth in damp localities.

A GENERIC TABLE OF THE FAMILY PANURGIDAE: A REPLY TO MR. COCKERELL'S CRITIQUE ON THE SEGREGATION OF PERDITA COCKERELL.

BY WILLIAM H. ASHMEAD, WASHINGTON, D. C.

In Psyche for January 1899, Mr. Cockerell has made some criticisms on my segregation of the genus Perdita Cockerell, which seem to require a reply.

Now, I think the whole trouble with Mr. Cockerell is expressed in his opening sentence: "*I hardly know what to say about Mr. Ashmead's three new genera, established in Psyche pp.* 284–285 *at the expanse of Perdita*"; and, had he waited a little longer and given himself more time to investigate the subject a little more thoroughly, I am convinced he would have been better able to have said something more to the point.

Perdita Smith, in my paper, is not defined, and the fact that Smith based his genus upon a specimen without maxillary and labial palpi has nothing to do with the validity of the genus Cockerellia.

The genus Perdita Smith, however, has been recognized, and while the labial palpi do not agree exactly with the imaginary figure of Smith's, there is still some resemblance, and the labial palpi are sufficiently different, according to my views, to readily distinguish it from Cockerellia; besides the other characters mentioned by Smith hold good, and these, as well as other differences between it and Cockerellia, will be brought out in my generic table given below.

Mr. Cockerell surely must be wrong when he says the male of *P. hyalina* or *albipennis* has the claws simple and the abdomen not banded! I have examined a great many *males* of this species and all have the claws cleft, and the abdomen banded. If Mr. Cockerell possesses a specimen without these